

The Richmond ReView

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FREE

July 1992



A look Back at Sutro Baths

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Cancer center on hold for permit

by Paul Kozakiewicz

Plans to locate a new cancer center in the Presidio Heights are still on hold as City planning department officials decide how to proceed with the project.

The California Pacific Medical Center plans to locate the 9,900-square-foot center beneath a parking lot at its East Campus (formerly the Marshall Hale Hospital) at Sacramento and Maple streets.

Crews were readying to start construction on the center in May when the City planning department's bureau of building inspection revoked a shoring permit because there was a lack of documents on file for the project.

The plan caught some neighbors by surprise because San Francisco Zoning Administrator Bob Passmore granted the medical center an exemption from getting a conditional use permit and an environmental review if the project did not "significantly" enlarge the scope or intensity of operations at the center or increase the height or bulk at the site.

Passmore is trying to determine if a new letter of exemption should be written for the project to proceed or if the medical center should apply for a conditional use permit.

Passmore wrote the letter to the medical center's consultants preparing a five-year plan in September 1990.

The letter was then used by the medical center to acquire permits from the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, the agency responsible for overseeing health facilities in the state.

The state agency has issued a shoring permit and tentatively approved an emergency exit alteration permit for the site — the first

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Building a better future



Photo: Philip Liborio Gangi

Laurel School founder Marcia Spitz (right) uses a hands-on approach to teaching learning disabled students in the Richmond.

by Caroline Chung

Some people see a need for change and make it happen.

Marcia Spitz, headmistress and founder of the Laurel School in San Francisco is one of those people. She was a young teacher when she realized that the "slower" students,

who needed the most attention, were getting the least.

"I started the school in 1964 because there was a need in the community for a facility to serve learning disabled children. The term 'learning disabled' was just coming to be," Spitz remembers.

It was originally called the Learning Cen-

ter and was located on Sacramento Street in the Laurel Heights area. The center expanded from being a half-day school to a full-day school by 1969 and is now located at 350 Ninth Ave.

Spitz has known for a long time that she

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Decision pending for planning code rewrite

by Chris Rivers

After more than a year of disagreements and delays, the San Francisco Planning Commission is considering approving a new set of permanent controls on building demolitions and renovating the City's housing stock.

Designed to replace temporary

residential conservation controls passed in 1987, the current proposal has been on the agenda in public hearings since May 28.

"Many of the old rules were so complicated and inconsistent, they made it difficult for people to build or remodel their homes," said City Planner Inge Horton.

"We have tried to listen to both

builders and neighborhood groups in suggesting changes for the new controls," Horton added.

But judging from testimony given at the June 11 hearing, the plan is not likely to receive unqualified support from either group.

"The rules are based on an absurd premise, an absurd assumption and an absurd proposal," said Joe O'Donoghue, president of the Residential Builders Association.

"It is the myth that demolitions are rampant and that they destroy affordable housing."

Asked by new planning commission director Sidney Unobsky whether a fee to help pay for affordable housing could be charged to builders who demolish single-family dwellings in areas zoned for two-family dwellings in order to add a 600-square-foot-maximum unit, O'Donoghue said

such a fee would be met with an immediate legal challenge.

Members of many neighborhood groups support stronger building regulations and design review guidelines, but say keeping detailed checklists and records, especially for discretionary review, is essential to ensuring strict compliance with the new rules.

Changes in the new document, based on planning department recommendations, include:

1. Rear Yards: The minimum rear yard requirement of 45 percent of the lot depth for lots less than 70 feet deep has been changed to 25 percent.

"This means that on short lots, you can still get a building that is usable," Horton said.

2. Height Limits: The former method of defining height limits

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Dinner for two — please hold the rat

by Laura Jacoby/Chatham

There's a lot to consider when picking a restaurant to dine in. Is the food good? Is there parking available? Is the kitchen free of rat infestation? Do kitchen workers observe the appropriate sanitation rules?

Rat infestation? Sanitation rules? These are not the immedi-

ate concerns of most diners, but that's how Lisa Palladino evaluates restaurants in her job as principal environmental health inspector for the Richmond and Sunset districts.

Palladino and her supervisor, Assistant Director John Breslin of the Bureau of Environmental Health Services, spoke to the June meeting of the Richmond

District Community/Police Forum about how the public health department works to prevent the spread of food-related illness and how the public can help.

There are three inspectors responsible for the ongoing inspection of 1,200 facilities

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Ocean Beach condo designs OK'd

by Susan Vaughan

On June 11 San Francisco Planning Commission members reviewed details of final building and landscaping plans for 61 condominium units on Parcel 4, a

sandy vacant lot along the Great Highway below Sutro Heights.

Members of neighborhood groups that have been working to buy the land to donate it to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area for several years were present.

According to Amy Meyer, a member of the People for a Golden Gate National Recreation Area, they had no objections to the current designs — if the owner, Taldan Investment Company, goes ahead with the development.

But the development of the homes has been clouded by two factors. One is the need for the City's Clean Water Project (CWP) to use part of the site as a base of operations for the construction for the Richmond Transport Project, the other is the Chapter 11 status recently acquired by Taldan.

In recent months, the City was preparing to sign an agreement with Taldan to lease part of the land for the construction of the transport project.

"We've been advised by our director of property that that lease arrangement ... is no longer active," said Lou Blazej, acting planning director after planning commissioners went into executive session at the May 28 planning commission hearing — posi-

bly to discuss recent revelations regarding a Federal Bureau of Investigation probe of Taldan and speculation that the firm was near bankruptcy.

Since then Taldan has filed for bankruptcy.

Taldan President Zev Ben-Simon says his company is still committed to a lease agreement for staging construction of the transport project and Alex Mamak, spokesman for the CWP, says the City still needs the land to proceed with the plan.

Any agreement for the CWP's lease of the land will be with the bankruptcy court, Mamak says.

The public works department will work with the court to work out a deal for the land, said public works spokesperson Michelle Corbett.

The transport project is now in the design phase — stage one. Fifty percent of the design has been completed, according to Mamak.

The second stage of the process, which will involve use of Parcel 4, is expected to begin in the fall of 1993 and must be completed by March, 1996, says Corbett.

According to Ben-Simon, if the lease agreement "doesn't go through, [Parcel 4] will probably

Going for the gold



Photo: Paul Kozakiewicz

Richmond District resident and Olympic gold hopeful Damon Keeve (right) was captured by the Richmond Review's roving camera while training at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. Keeve, a Richmond native who teaches at the Presidio Middle School, is one of two heavyweight Judo challengers for the United States in the upcoming Olympic games in Barcelona, Spain. Standing with Keeve is Jason Morris, a Judo combatant from Scotia, New York, who is fighting in the 78 kg weight division.

be developed right away."

But Ben-Simon says Taldan does not currently have financing available for the \$17 million plans.

The planning commission is scheduled to consider the lease agreement between Taldan and

the public works department through Taldan's court-appointed trustee August 8. Taldan has an Aug. 15, 1994 deadline for breaking ground on the project. If a lease agreement is approved, the commission may extend the starting date to Aug. 15, 1999.

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The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce is urging Richmond District businesses large and small to invest in the community and in the City's future by hiring the City's youth for summer jobs.

"This is one way the business community can help keep our community together," said chamber President Donna Doyle. "Business needs to provide opportunities for young people to gain

practical work experience and prepare them for the future."

In a recessionary economy and with California's teenage unemployment rate reaching 23.9 percent in April, the support of the business community in providing these jobs is more important than ever, she added.

The chamber is working with the Private Industry Council (PIC) to create 3,400 private sector jobs for low-income teens this summer. A \$1.9 million federal grant, announced on June 25, will be used to help the chamber and the PIC.

The PIC works with the state Employment Development Department's (EDD) Youth Services Office to train young people ages 16 to 21 from all San Francisco neighborhoods.

Tom Hontalas, owner of Louis' Restaurant near Ocean Beach,

recently hired 20-year-old Cliff Garrett for a full-time job helping out in the kitchen.

Hontalas said he has hired other youth in the past through the City's Summer Jobs Program and said they come well prepared for their responsibilities.

When a company calls the summer job program with a job order, applicants are screened by EDD staff members and must complete job skills workshops before being referred to a job opening.

The summer job program helps prepare young people to do word processing, production work, filing, reception, sales, typing, stocking, message delivery, food service and service station work.

To announce job openings or for more information, business representatives can call 861-JOBS.

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Asian women's shelter offers 'refuge from the storm'

by Caroline Chung

For many women who face domestic violence daily, there often seems to be no hope or help.

But there is a resource in San Francisco that offers a multitude of free services for women in need. The Asian Women's Shelter, a program targeted specifically for Asian women who experience domestic violence, is a valuable source of help.

"The shelter not only provides a safe haven for residents, but provides a comprehensive network of resources for battered Asian women and their children," says Volunteer Coordinator Christy Chung.

The Asian Women's Shelter also offers free referrals to legal counseling, financial counseling and education about domestic violence. Additionally, AWS has a hotline number for women seeking immediate help or referrals.

Created four years ago, AWS is one of only three such shelters in the United States. The other two are located in New York City and Los Angeles.

"I've worked at other shelters previous to AWS and I noticed that Asian women weren't being served," says Becky Masaki, executive director and co-founder of AWS.

"They weren't coming. They felt uncomfortable in an environment so wholly different from their culture. These women are



ashamed of their situation and feel they cannot talk to their friends or other family members. Therefore, they suffer silently day after day."

AWS is a shelter that accommodates the Asian women by including familiar items in the shelter which makes it more like home: rice and other Asian foods, Asian art and papers, and predominantly Asian volunteers. Many volunteers bring with them languages other than English and are able to converse with the often monolingual residents.

When asked what the most challenging aspect of her position at AWS is, Masaki pauses for a brief moment before answering.

"I think the most difficult aspect of my job is exposing the problem of domestic violence in Asian families, having to dispel rumors of the Asian community as models of harmony.

"Domestic violence is the same across the board; it's prevalent in

all the races. We need to show people the problem and then work on resolving it. Aside from that, raising money is a constant goal as well."

AWS volunteers are a diverse group, says Masaki.

"Some of the volunteers come from a background of domestic violence; some have been previously battered; others have done general community work and find working with Asian women and children particularly rewarding."

Applicants undergo 40 hours of training before being accepted as volunteers. The training includes workshops sexual and chemical abuse, the criminal legal system, homophobia, heterosexism, working with children, AIDS awareness and immigration issues.

Training sessions are held twice a year and actual shift times average approximately four hours a week for six months. Volunteers may remain with AWS for longer than the six months as on-call.

AWS can hold only eight to ten residents and accepts clients on a first-come, first-served basis, says Masaki.

"We don't discriminate. We get to know the women first through phone intake and go from there. The only requirement for residents is that they are being battered and need a place to stay."

The shelter is in a secret location to ensure the safety of the residents. Most of the women who seek shelter have been sought out by their batterers, so discretion is extremely important to their well-being.

Once at the shelter, the women and children can stay for nine weeks, though sometimes extensions are granted if extra time is needed.

Often, complications with

immigration and legal issues require a lengthy stay.

"Approximately 80 percent of the residents go on to their own permanent housing, and the rest go back to their original homes," Masaki says.

"But we don't consider that a success rate. And it's not considered a 'failure' if the woman wants to go back. We're here to provide a service and temporary shelter, not to make judgments."

The residents at the shelter come from varied backgrounds, but their stories share similar themes of hopelessness and despair. One resident, Mrs. Lee (not her real name) is currently seeking permanent housing.

"For 20 years, my husband yelled at me and beat me. He almost killed me a couple of times," she says.

Volunteers at AWS have helped Lee get the legal help she needed to put her life in order.

"The volunteers here are very, very nice and helpful. They drive me to places I need to go, and I am getting things done now. Finally."

When asked what the shelter is most in need of, Masaki answers quickly and emphatically.

"Time. People's time, and money, of course. The shelter is small and we have had a lot of

donations of clothes, blankets and toys. We really need time and money."

Anyone wishing to contact the AWS may call their hotline at (415) 731-7100 or write to the Asian Women's Shelter, Box #19, 3543 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

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SF scouts travel to Washington D.C. to march in Fourth of July parade

San Francisco's 77-year-old Boy Scouts of America Troop 12 is preparing for July 4 in Washington D.C., when the troop will represent the boy scouts nationwide in the Independence Day Parade.

The 55 members of Troop 12's Drum and Bugle Corps are practicing weekly in the Richmond District's Pine United Methodist Church, anticipating their journey to the nation's capital to take part in the celebration of the 500th anniversary of Columbus' arrival in the New World.

However, these scouts are not completely prepared. Their goal of raising \$75,000 in donations to fund the trip has not been met.

However, these scouts are no quitters. Throughout its existence, Troop 12 has faced obstacles and overcome them, most notably that of anti-Asian sentiment during World War II.

Scoutmaster Wyeman Wong thinks it is the remarkable history of Troop 12, now predominantly composed of Asian males age 11 to 18, which made it the troop chosen to go to Washington.

To help the scouts meet their goal, Wong said, tax-deductible donations are being solicited. Those who want to aid in funding the trip can send contributions to Troop 12, Boy Scouts of America, 1335 30th Avenue, S.F., 94122.

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City voters pass Golden Gate Park bonds, give Burton primary victory

by John Hayden

Proposition A, Golden Gate Park Bonds, passed easily in the June 2 primary election. Nearly 73 percent of San Franciscans who voted in the election voted for the proposition, which required only a two-thirds vote for passage. (However, voter turnout was barely more than 40 percent.)

This means voters approved a deal that will allow the City to

purchase \$76.3 million in general obligation bonds to pay for numerous repairs to the park's infrastructure.

These repairs will include replacing underground utilities, restoring wells, replacing pumps, cleaning and resealing some of the Park's man-made lakes and repairing the waterfalls.

In addition to that, replanting of old and dying trees will be accelerated, and the public

restrooms will be repaired and made accessible to the disabled.

It should be noted, however, that since these bonds are purchased, as opposed to monies coming out of the general city fund, there is interest to be paid on them. At current interest rates, the interest on the bonds will amount to approximately \$54 million, which brings the actual debt service requirement to roughly \$130 million.

Proposition A had extensive support. Mayor Jordan and all the Supervisors backed it, as well as important elected officials including Leo McCarthy, Willie Brown, John Burton, and Louise Renne, to name a few.

It was also supported by all of the City's former mayors: Art Agnos, Dianne Feinstein, Joe Alioto and George Christopher and by such diverse groups as The Museum Society, Dignity AIDS Support Group (De Laveaga Dell

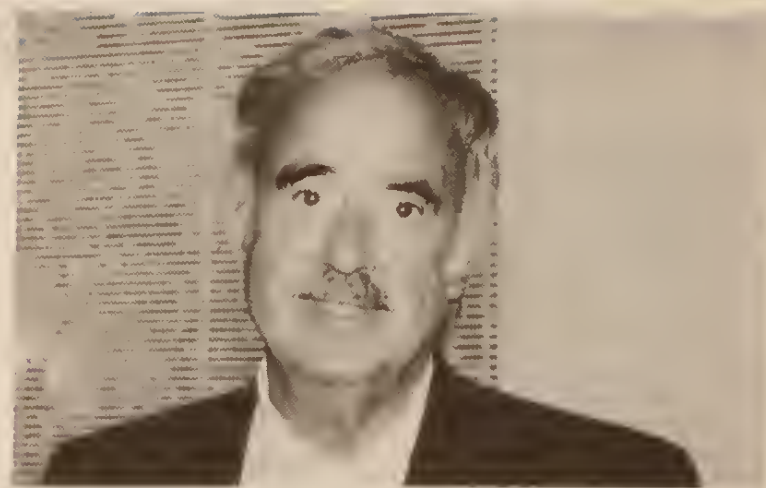


Photo: John Hayden

John Burton smiles after his Democratic Party primary victory.

in Golden Gate Park is planned as the future site of the AIDS Memorial Grove), and the Impala Women's Racing Team.

"I feel Proposition A was justified," State Senator Quentin Kopp said, "though I feel the disrepair of Golden Gate Park has been caused by a lot of uncaring people. However, I opposed Propositions B, C, D, and E, because we're tired of increased property taxes due to improvident City government."

At the same time, Prop. A did have its foes, namely Arlo H. Smith and Robert Silvestri of the Committee to Prevent Municipal Bankruptcy. Also vehemently opposing Prop. A was James Slaughter, treasurer of Property Owners Against Excessive Taxation.

In Slaughter's paid argument he stated, "Our big spending City politicians tell you Prop. A calls for \$76.3 million for improvements to Golden Gate Park, but they conveniently forget to mention the real cost of these bonds which, together with interest owed, will total \$130 million! How are these bonds paid for? By increasing property taxes."

Later in his statement he said, "According to a recent report the City can still legally incur an excess of \$900 million in new debt. You can be sure of two things: first, they will find a way of spending every nickel of it, and secondly, you'll pay for it!"

However, Prop. A won in every single district in San Francisco. The Richmond District (including Laurel Heights and Anza Vista) voted 11, 299 for and 3,827 against.

Burton Wins in 12th District

Incumbent John Burton, brother of the late congressman Phil Burton, easily won the Democratic Nomination for the new 12th Assembly District by defeating opponent Charles Grice and capturing nearly 75 percent of the vote. In the general election in November, Burton faces Republican Storm Jenkins for the seat.

The line for the new assembly districts in San Francisco is drawn from north to south, thus dividing the City roughly in half, with the 12th District containing both the Richmond and Sunset districts.

Burton was pleased with the election results.

"I feel that in these times to be able to get close to 75 percent of the vote against a strong and energetic, young candidate like Chuck Grice is very gratifying to me."

When questioned about what his objectives in the new district will be, should he win in the fall, Burton was solemn.

"We're now working very hard on the budget problems in Sacramento to see that San Francisco at least gets a fair share of state financing. Things are very difficult up there with the budget deficit and, unfortunately, everybody is going to get hurt," he said.

"The cuts are horrendous. We're talking about a minimum of 15 percent budget cuts. We're talking about off-loading some of the state responsibilities to the local government. If we do that, in my judgment, we're going to have to take away some of the mandated programs that we lay on local government to give them greater flexibility than they have now for the expenditure of dollars."

Libraries cut back hours due to City's budget deficit

by Shawna McCoy

summer.

The Richmond and five other resource branches of the San Francisco Public Library System will be closed on Mondays during the summer due to a \$1 million cut in money allocated to libraries out of the 1992-93 proposed city budget.

A resource library is larger, busier and has a bigger staff catering to people with research needs. Resource libraries also carry a majority of the library's foreign language material. The Richmond Branch, 351 Ninth Ave., is the only resource library in the Richmond District and was open seven days until it was cut to six in 1981. Now the library is only five days weekly.

The Anza and Presidio branches, also in the Richmond District, are smaller than the Richmond Branch and are already closed on Mondays. The main library will be closed on Sundays during the

"If you take a skinny underweight person and cut their diet by 10 percent, it's only inevitable that they are going to get sick," said Melissa Riley, a librarian at the Richmond, as well as other branches, about this year's budget cuts.

The Richmond branch has been closed on Mondays since June 8 because it lost the equivalent of one full-time librarian, said branch librarian Tim Williams. Out of the 24 branches in the library system, 16 positions were lost in next year's budget. The Excelsior, Mission, Chinatown, West Portal and Sunset (which is under renovation now, but will reopen to five days) are the other resource libraries that were affected.

"The cuts reflect the nature of red in the City's deficit. Our goal in this budget was to find a way to reduce staff and preserve ser-

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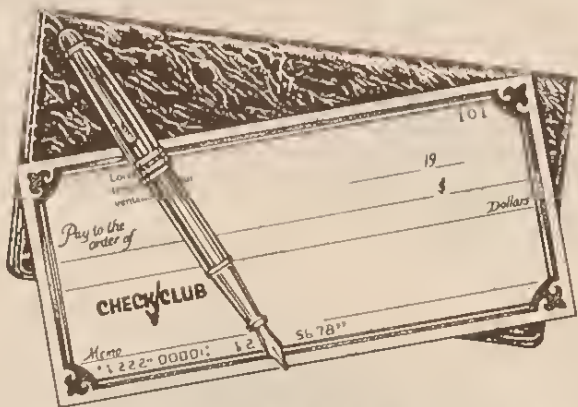
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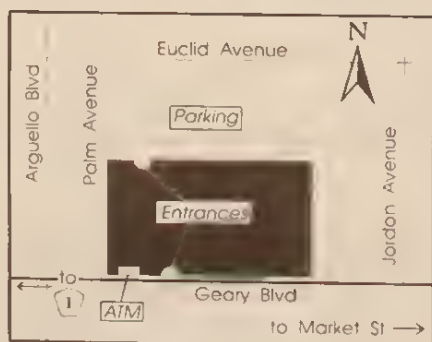
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Mayor hears merchant concerns

by Paul Kozakiewicz

Mayor Frank Jordan addressed the Geary merchants in June and answered questions about a wide range of topics from the City's budget deficit to a Muni option of locating a light rail system down Geary Boulevard.

Jordan brought an entourage of City workers to the meeting, including budget director Jean Mariani and Muni director of planning Peter Straus, to answer merchant queries.

"I inherited an absolute mess," Jordan said of the projected \$150 million deficit in the City's \$2.4 billion budget.

He said the deficit would be made up in a variety of ways, including:

- Reducing the size of the 26,000 person work force in the City by not replacing workers who leave their jobs.

- Raising \$57 million a year by increasing the cost of rides on the San Francisco's municipal railway.

- Givebacks by public employees and the business community.

- Extending, for one year, a 25 percent parking tax at City owned sites.

Jordan said his budget will provide for an academy class of police cadets to help offset the 60 officers who will leave the force this year and for the employment of 12 dispatchers to assist with 911 emergency calls.

The mayor also said he will attempt to deal with the homeless population in San Francisco by using workfare programs to employ the estimated 40 percent of the homeless under 35 years of age to help clean City streets. He said some of the mentally ill and substance abusers will get assistance from two City vans, each with a social worker, police officer and nurse, who will try to direct them to the proper services to help



Mayor Frank Jordan mingles with the crowd after addressing a meeting of the Greater Geary Boulevard Merchants Association.

them recover.

And the mayor made a pitch to rally support to keep the San Francisco Giants baseball team in town. He said the City needs the professional club and the time is "now or never" to work out a deal for a new stadium.

Also on hand to address the group of about 30 merchants and professionals at the Richmond Police Station on Sixth Avenue was Kevin Hagerty, director of the San Francisco Parking Authority, who addressed Pat O'Shea's owner Jim Kelly's concerns about parking in the Inner Richmond District.

"The Richmond has one of the worst, most acute parking problems in town," Hagerty said.

He said there are 265,000 more cars than legal parking spaces in

San Francisco and 19,000 more are added yearly. He said the department has a "transit first" policy but it is currently looking for a possible site for a garage in the district, including the Coliseum Theater at Clement Street and Ninth Avenue or the Lick Supermarket lot between Geary Boulevard and Clement Street and Sixth and Seventh avenues.

Kelly pointed out the empty lot used to house a gas station at the corner of Geary Boulevard and Stanyan Street, a site Hagerty said he would investigate.

Another merchant, Cecilia Tsu, proprietor of the Dynasty Fantasy restaurant on Geary Boulevard at 26th Avenue, told Muni planning director Straus that a proposed light rail system to replace the 38 Geary bus line is unwelcome because of its possible effects on business during the years of construction required to implement the rail system.

Straus countered that there would be a study initiated during the late summer or fall with public meetings in the District to get the "input of the community" and that Muni would make its decision based on "what's best for most of us."

He said Proposition B, passed by City voters in 1989, provides \$200 million for transit improvements and could be used to partially pay for the system which would save commuters an estimated three to five minutes of travel time downtown.

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Gunman shoots two employees in Geary Walgreen's robbery

Two employees of the Walgreen's Drugstore at 5411 Geary Blvd. are now recovering from gunshot wounds received during an armed robbery on Thursday, June 25. Both were Richmond District residents, said Walgreen's manager Joe Martinez.

One employee was working at the cash register at about 7 p.m. when an armed robber approached him and demanded that the clerk hand over all the money in the register.

When the employee hesitated, the robber fired two shots, reached over the counter, seized the cash and then fled.

The 23-year-old employee at the cash register was struck in the shoulder by a bullet and was taken to San Francisco General Hospital. The other employee was wounded in the knee, but did not require hospitalization.

The employees' names have not been released to the press.



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Starship ... the next generation

Kantner soars with new band

Longtime Richmond District resident Paul Kantner (center) played with his new band, Jefferson Starship - the Next Generation, at the Haight Ashbury Street Fair in June. Jefferson Airplane veteran, 74-year-old Papa John Creach (left), has rejoined his former mate along with veteran Jack Casady (not shown). Injecting some fresh blood into the band is Santa Cruz singer Darby Gould (right). Gould also sings in the Bay Area band, World Entertainment War.



Photo and text by Philip Libero Gangi

Meeting planned for new rec. center

A public meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 8, at 7 p.m. at the Richmond District Police Station meeting room (461 Sixth Avenue). The meeting room is located at the rear of the station and best accessed through the minipark on Seventh Avenue.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the design of the new Richmond Gym and Recreation Center, which will be located on the old Suto Annex site between 18th and 19th avenues and Clement and California streets.

The 44 O'Shaughnessy and 38

Geary stop at Sixth Avenue and are wheelchair accessible. To arrange for a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation, please call Tim Lillyquist at 666-7080 a minimum of seven days in advance of the meeting.

Giants rally to help Argonne students

The Argonne Elementary School community will rally with the San Francisco Giants Saturday, July 11, to help save school programs.

The Montreal Expos will be in town to do battle with the Giants and the home team is donating \$4 of every \$8.25 ticket to Argonne.

The ceremonial first pitch/home plate ceremony will be performed in recognition of the school. In addition, there will be a tailgate party beginning at 10 a.m. (game-time is noon) and a sports raffle.

Members of Argonne's Parent Teacher Association are sponsoring the rally to raise money for the school's Learning Education through the Arts Program (LEAP) and physical education and field studies programs that have experienced large budget cuts in recent years.

To make reservations for Argonne's "Day at the Stick," call Argonne Elementary at 751-6717 or the SF Giants at 330-2435 or 330-2573.



Friends of Argonne Elementary School posed with San Francisco Giants pitcher Trevor Wilson (center) during a visit in May. Standing in the front row (left to right) are students Jackie Honma, Sierra Mahone, Kristin Honma, Ruth Robins, Edward Robins and John Devore and in the back row are Dan and Jan Honma, Rodney Chin, Trevor Wilson, Mark Robins and Argonne principal Rose Barragan.

Muni alters Owl service

Muni's alteration of its early morning Owl service on June 20 included changes to the existing 31 Balboa and 5 Fulton lines and the addition of a new 91 Owl bus.

The new Owl service, which runs from 1 to 5 a.m., eliminates the 31 Balboa, leaving riders to catch the parallel-running 5 Fulton or 38 Geary lines. To aid riders, the 5 Fulton and 38 Geary lines will now run every half hour.

The 91 Owl replaces the old 90 Owl. According to Muni, the 91 Owl connects West Portal, San Francisco State University and downtown and runs along Park Presidio through the Richmond District, beginning service on part of the 28 19th Avenue.

There is now a timed transfer point to minimize waiting for the 38 Geary and 91 Owl on Geary and Park Presidio boulevards.

Correction

In last month's article about the Richmond District Photochrome Club a word was inadvertently omitted from a quote by club president Jim Pagano about club member Joe Clary. It should have read: "Joe is an inspiration to all of us. He is not only an excellent photographer, but he is also like a mentor to all of us." The Richmond ReView regrets the error.

Richmond District Crime Statistics

Crime Description	January	February	March	April	May	June	6 Month as of 6/25	Totals
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
Rape	0	1	1	4	1	0	7	7
Robbery	35	44	47	27	21	9	183	183
Assault	52	50	42	64	24	24	258	258
Burglary	68	56	65	49	48	28	314	314
Theft (grand or petty)	161	147	197	186	122	47	860	860
Auto (break-ins)	140	95	95	78	28	9	445	445
Other	403	409	407	345	275	133	1,972	1,972
Totals	859	802	855	753	519	250	4,038	4,038

The most recent statistics are incomplete and will increase as crimes are logged in the computer.



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Can it really be that the Summer of Love was 25 years ago? It seems like just yesterday that I ... well, you probably have stories of your own, so I won't go on. Actually, I was in St. Louis at the time enjoying the Summer of Summer School, but I was a San Franciscan in spirit, just counting the days until I could move to the City by the Bay and begin my real life. Now, just a quarter of a century later, here I am and this is real life — tie-dye T-shirts with jeans have been replaced by anything in black, and Lyndon Johnson has been replaced by George Bush. What does it all mean?

San Francisco devotees on the hunt for summer reading will enjoy Donna Levin's murder mystery, *California Street*, which

mond writers group. Well, actually, the group only met long enough to agree that summer is a rotten time to try to form a group, so regular meetings have been put on hold until the Monday after Labor Day. If you'd like to get on the mailing list for the first meeting, send your name and address to John at P.O. Box 210248, San Francisco, 94121. All writers are welcome, including those for whom English is not their first language, and John is already looking toward a publication of some sort.

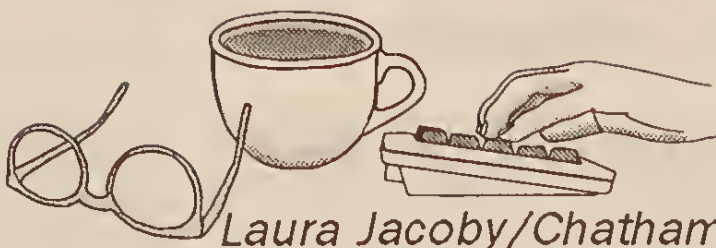
The spoken word is the specialty of George Washington High School debate coach Sanford Chandler, who was recently named "Educator of the Year" by the SF Optimist Club for his "25 years of dedication above and beyond the classroom." He was awarded a plaque of service by John Rothman, a former Washington student who is

now a professional speaker. Sanford has also been recognized as a "Triple Diamond" coach by the National Forensic League.

The Park Presidio Lions Club has awarded senior Janet Lee of Washington High with a scholarship of \$500. Janet will be attending the University of California, Berkeley in the fall.

Washington principal Al Vidal is working with Bonnie Berg of the Youth for Understanding International Exchange to find a home for an international student who will attend the high school this year. If you would like to share your family's life with an exchange student, call Bonnie at 673-4727 soon — students start arriving in August.

Meanwhile, acting Richmond District Police Captain Alex Stevens wants residents around Washington High to be aware that 2,000 students are attending summer school at the high school this year, a big increase compared to 600 last summer. School officials have worked with Muni to be sure



Laura Jacoby/Chatham

there will be sufficient buses for the summer students. Stevens reminds residents that attendance at summer school is not mandatory and kids who cause trouble will be expelled, so if you have any problems, call the Richmond station at 553-1385.

Stevens is also reminding everyone to use the crosswalks, please, and look both ways before crossing the street. Of 12 fatal car/pedestrian confrontations in San Francisco in the first quarter of this year, seven were caused by pedestrians. Californians get spoiled by the pedestrian right-of-way statute, but when there's a confrontation between a person and a car, you can assume the car is going to have the last word — no matter what the law might be.

One last word from the police is a reminder that the garage thieves are still at work. They break open the small box mounted outside the garage door and "hot wire" the electric circuits to open the automatic door. Once inside, they take anything of value they can find, sometimes using bolt cutters to free chained bicycles. Stevens suggested that residents check their garage door mechanisms and, perhaps, have them reinforced so that they cannot be easily accessed.

Speaking of missing bikes — have you seen a red two-seater with a broken kickstand and "Ferrari" written on the frame? If you have, call Linda at 668-5239, because hers is missing. Linda, who is legally blind, depends on her tandem bike to enjoy the

breezy pleasures of pedaling around town and would really appreciate the return of her beloved Ferrari.

If you'd rather walk than ride, Baywalkers has a 24-hour hotline

you can call to get all the up-to-the-minute news about walks and walking groups. In addition, Baywalkers will help you find walks specific to your schedule and preferred locations. The group is promoting walking as a low-cost, multi-generational, social activity that is good for physical fitness too — what more could you ask for? If you'd like to know more about the group or walking activities in the Bay Area, call 777-3773. Baywalkers would also like to hear from walkers about groups or routes that might be of interest to others.

Myrtle, the infamous whooper swan of Mountain Lake Park, is not the ambitious Rambler she once was since park gardeners began to make a point of feeding her by the lake, says Deanna McNamara, president of the Friends of Mountain Lake Park. Another female whooper brought to the lake by the San Francisco Zoo was taken back by the zoo when it appeared to be ill and later died of asphyxiation during a force-feeding. Myrtle now shares her park with Lohengrin, a male mute swan (OK, who named the mute swan after an opera?), and they are getting along just fine.

The Richmond ReView and Sunset Beacon staffs spent a day at Golden Gate Park celebrating their fourth and first years, respectively, in the newspaper biz. Aside from a few notorious no-shows (who will be dealt with appropriately), everyone enjoyed a day free of computer screens and fact-checking.

Leaping to the last item — if

you like riddles, music and magic tricks, come to the Richmond Branch Library, July 9 at 2:30 p.m. for Sheila Rubin and the Frog Dance. Sheila, who has moved here from Portland where she worked at the children's museum, bets she can turn your kids (and maybe you) into frogs just by singing a magic song, so come to the library at 351 Ninth Ave. and watch her work her magic.

As for me, I shall now disappear. ... Poof.



Myrtle the swan at Mountain Lake Park.

recently came out in paperback. Even if mysteries aren't your cup of tea, Levin's characters are vividly drawn and, of course, matching up local celebs' identities with their fictional counterparts is a great game in itself.

Another enjoyable book by a Richmond resident is *Deadlines*, by Phil Cousineau, which, despite its title, is not a murder mystery. It is, however, based on "famous and infamous last words" and was inspired by Cousineau's father's good-night question, "Any famous last words, Philip, before you go to sleep?" Cousineau, a self-described "quotemonger," has since gathered thousands of quotes on topics from baseball to mythology. *Deadlines* is available at Green Apple Books on Clement Street, at City Lights Bookstore on Columbus Avenue or by calling Phil directly at 221-5960.

The Richmond District does seem to have a generous allotment of writers, both published and hope-to-bes, and resident John Pennington has formed a Rich-

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Big plans in small classes

Continued from page 1

wanted to be a teacher.

"I knew I wanted to be a teacher when I was seven. I didn't know I wanted to teach kids with learning disabilities until I was at Trenton State College in New Jersey. All the aspiring teachers were required to minor in secondary education because of the baby boom, and I found my love in teaching 'problem' kids. These kids were too tired to study and pay attention in class because they were out late at night stealing."

Being a teacher over the course of three decades has allowed Spitz to observe a change in the school system, not only in the styles of teaching, but in general attitudes towards students with learning disabilities.

"Until 1972, people were mostly wondering why some kids had problems in learning. Why didn't they learn the same way? The curriculum was strictly geared toward remedial methods," says Spitz.

Her decision to start a school for children who needed different learning styles, and more attention originated when she observed that some kids spent so much time learning to read, they missed out on social studies, and science.

Classes at the Laurel School are small in order to cater to the

kids' individual needs. The largest class numbers ten. The smaller classes range from one-on-one instruction to three students. The school handles preschool through eighth grade students.

"Having a pre-school in a school like this is great. Bigger kids become role models to the younger ones and take them around," says Spitz.

All teachers encourage students to at least try to do the work, attain personal goals and to go on to the next project.

"Competition between the students is never an issue. Each child is praised only on their personal development," Spitz says.

She uses striking examples to show that learning disabilities are nothing to be ashamed of, only to be overcome.

"Do you know how prevalent learning problems are?" Spitz asks. "Did you know that Einstein and Tom Cruise have had learning disabilities?"

She cites an example of two seven-year-old students from the school who are reading at an advanced age-nine level.

"These students were encouraged not only by their teachers, but their fellow classmates to continue their progress," Spitz exclaims.

As a former administrator in

the school system, Spitz has had a firsthand look at the deficiencies of a bureaucratic methodology.

"I don't like bureaucratic stuff," she says. "So, as founder of a school, I try to amend the things overlooked in other larger schools. We're family here, when students misbehave or call each other names, we talk about it, we stop it."

Spitz encourages students to feel like big fish in a little pond.

"For many students, it's the first time they're hearing 'good job, you did it, that's great.' In big schools and big classes, the timid students are bypassed unless they're straight-A or very poor students."

Another important lesson for the students is that of taking responsibility. Every year, the class plans a trip and the kids earn their own money for the expenses.

"In 1989, we went to the Soviet Union, and the children all earned the money to go. In 1991, we went to New York; last year, we went to Virginia. The children are taught that if they want things, they have to work to get them."

How do parents and friends find out about the Laurel School?

"Word-of-mouth. We're the best-kept secret in San Francisco," claims Spitz, adding that students come from all over the Bay Area but mostly from other parts of San Francisco.

One of the most exciting events is the annual school play. All students are part of the production.

"The play is not based on talent, and it's not even the dramatic, creative aspect of the play that benefits them," Spitz says.

"It's the sense of accomplishment, the feeling of being important. Most of these children would never dream of learning their lines, memorizing them and acting



Photo: Philip Liborio Gangi

Laurel School students show their enthusiasm for learning – and playing – during a recent visit by Richmond ReView staff.

in front of other people. It makes the kids feel very special and very good about themselves."

Spitz most recently ran into one of her former students who is now the lead in "Taming of the Shrew."

When asked the most rewarding aspect of her job, Spitz pauses just a moment before answering.

"Everything. I can honestly say there is no single aspect of my job that I find unrewarding. Even when I have to sit a kid down and scold them for something naughty,

I get a very satisfying feeling that I am helping them down the road. I feel especially good if they don't do that naughty thing again," Spitz laughs.

What would constitute as the biggest lifetime accomplishment for Spitz?

"I love my students, and the school, but it would have to be my son. I'm very proud of him. He helps me out with my classes."

For more information on the Laurel School, call 752-3567.

Ensuring healthful food

Continued from page 1

operating by permit in the western end of the City. The inspectors try to make four unannounced visits yearly to each facility, said Palladino, although they are currently two inspectors short of a full staff.

When inspecting restaurants, Palladino and her staff look for key elements of a well-run kitchen. Some of these are:

- Cooked food should not be stored with raw, as the raw might contaminate the cooked with bacteria.

- Food must be maintained at the proper temperature, whether hot or cold, to discourage the growth of bacteria.

- Once frozen, food should be defrosted and reheated properly to eliminate bacteria.

- Food handlers should keep their hands clean and be free of potentially food-borne illnesses, such as hepatitis. (Tuberculosis and AIDS cannot be transmitted

through food.)

- Cleaning products should be stored away from food so there is no chance of contamination.

- Rodents and roaches are, of course, unacceptable.

Restaurants are not the only places that must pass inspection. Palladino's staff also keeps an eye on bars, grocery stores, food-dispensing pushcarts, animal kennels, pet shops and laundromats.

Of particular interest to many residents was the status of produce and fish markets along Clement Street between Third and Eleventh avenues. Some of the produce markets have extensive outdoor displays and attract sidewalk-blocking crowds of shoppers. The fish markets came under fire for their fishy smell, which often pervades the air outside the stores. Both types of stores were accused of blocking the curb area with stacks of wooden crates.

Continued on page 13

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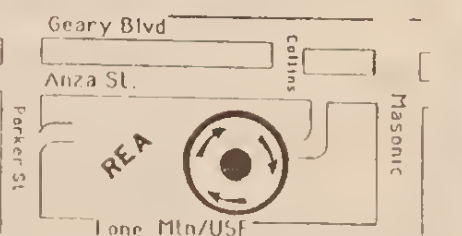
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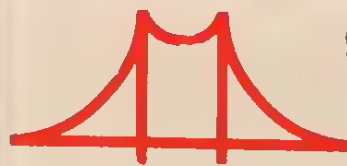
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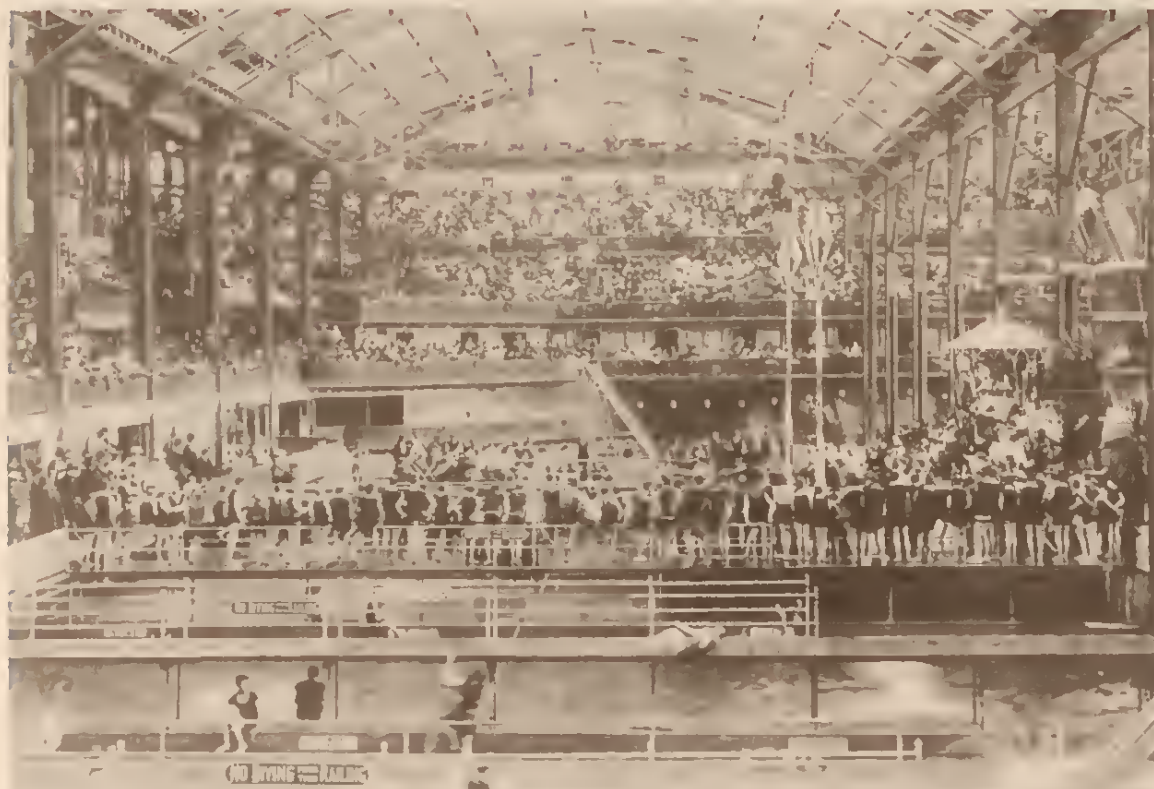
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Sutro Baths: California's tropical winter gardens



The Sutro Baths (left) held hundreds of bathers in its heyday at the turn of the century. A view of the deteriorating buildings before they burned down in the mid-1960s is at right.

by Alan Brewer

In San Francisco during the 1920s and 1930s, public pools, or bathhouses, throughout the City attracted people from all walks of life.

Fleishacker Pool, at the end of Sloat Boulevard, dwarfed the other outdoor municipal pools with its 1,000-foot length. Despite chilly water and clammy winds from the ocean, it remained open from 1925 until 1971. Further inland were Mission Pool (or the "Nickel Baths") and the North Beach pool, also a nickel.

For 25 cents, you could have warm weather any day at an indoor pool: Lurline Baths at Bush and Larkin (1894-1936) and Crystal Palace Salt Water Baths at 775 Lombard (1924-1956). And for 75 cents, there was the elegant Fairmont Hotel Plunge, which opened in 1929. It later became the Tonga Room, where a band played from a floating barge.

However, the queen of the indoor pools, known as "California's Tropical Winter Gardens," was Sutro Baths. For 70 years, it was a focal point of San Francisco located at Point Lobos, just north of the Cliff House. Today, its

ruins, nearly a century old, remain as a monument to old San Francisco.

Visitors paid a nickel to ride the number 2 Sutter streetcar directly into the terminal barn, then proceeded down a maze of stairways to the Museum and the Baths.

Vivian Goodwin, who grew up at 47th and Cabrillo, recalls, "There were palm trees on the stairways, and this humid atmosphere like the tropics."

Double stairways led down to a 7,500-seat amphitheater. Ten cents bought admission to galleries and the museum displaying Adolph Sutro's collection of Egyptian mummies, stuffed apes and bears, even an anaconda locked in a death embrace with a jaguar.

Below on the main floor seven separate pools, which ranged in temperature from near-freezing to 80 degrees. There was room for 3,000 people in the pools, Sutro's claimed, and for 25,000 people in the entire complex of galleries, promenades, two tiers of dressing rooms and restaurants.

The main pool, kept at a comfortable water temperature, was 275 feet by 150 feet. Five smaller

pools varied in temperature by 10 degrees each, and a near-freezing pool for the courageous was set off to one side.

Jack Goodwin recalls, "They called it the ice-cold pool. I didn't swim in that; I remember putting my foot in there."

Springboards, toboggan slides, trapezes, swinging rings, a raft, and diving platforms embellished the pools. Eighty feet above, glass panels spread across three arched domes spanning three acres.

Nearly two million gallons of salt water, mixed with some spring water, was brought in and filtered out by an ingenious system of tunnels, pumps and catch basins.

Sutro's supplied suits to all bathers, stocking 26,000 in all. Vivian Goodwin recalls, "The worst thing was you had to wear their suits - black tank models - and you had to have a cap."

Free swimming lessons were given in the morning.

"I first remember learning to swim there," Jack Goodwin says. "We almost all learned to swim there," his wife adds. She also recalls that, during World War II, "half of the floor was turned into a dance hall and they had servicemen's dances every other week."

The baths were the most remarkable legacy left to the City by Adolf Sutro.

Born in Prussia, Sutro arrived

Continued on page 14

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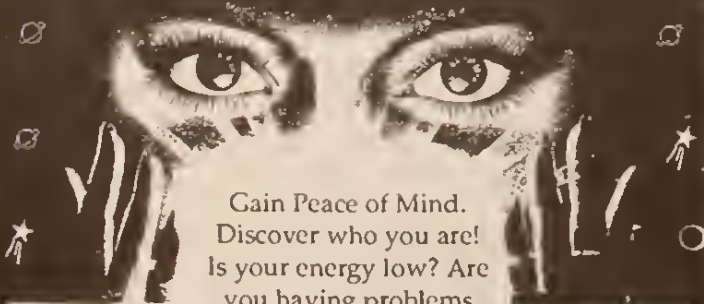
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Not just another fish story

by Cara Nesser

Is it safe to eat fish anymore?
The Clement Street Bar and Grill recently addressed this issue in a workshop designed to educate the staff about fish and shellfish contamination.

The workshop was organized by the grill's chef, Licia DiMeo, who noted that fish and shellfish are a big part of the restaurant's fresh daily specials. (A recent dinner menu boasted no less than seven fish entrees including skate wing and sand dabs.)

DiMeo wanted her staff to be able to answer patrons' questions firsthand, so she brought in Kevin McCurdy of California Crayfish Co. and Mike Mitchell of Marinelli Seafood Co. - both companies supply fish to the restaurant - who explained every step in the process of getting fish from the water to the waiter.

The companies use a "market fish" approach, in which small boats, usually family owned and operated, bring in a daily catch that is sold immediately.

McCurdy notes that with market fishing, careful handling results in little or no bruising, and the smaller catch enables the fish to be bled right on the boat, resulting in fresher, safer fish before it even comes ashore.



Photo: Aladar Nesser

Licia DiMeo prepares fish at the Clement Street Bar and Grill.

Small companies usually cut the fish to order for each restaurant they service, said McCurdy, limiting the amount of time the fish is exposed to air, and reducing the potential for contamination.

The seafood and fish used by both Marinelli's and California Crayfish Co. are raised in aqua farms away from polluted waters. In response to one waiter's question about bacteria in the water, Mitchell noted that while the government considers a bacteria level of 250 parts per million to be safe

to eat, his company does not let bacteria levels exceed 80 parts per million.

Both Marinelli's and California Crayfish Co. also sell to other restaurants and fish markets throughout the City. DiMeo reminds seafood aficionados that it is a good idea to ask questions no matter where fish is being bought.

As for the Clement Street Bar and Grill, when it comes to serving seafood, it seems it is the staff who will be giving the tips.

Libraries

Continued from page 4

vices," said Neil Tanaguchi, budget analyst for libraries. According to the budget, there will be fall community hearings to reassess the schedule with professional surveyors to see what people in each area want.

In their first month operating under five days, one thing that is different at the Richmond branch, according to Williams, who has been there for almost a year, is the volume of books in the bookdrop.

"On Tuesday morning it's a disaster area," he said. "The books are stacked up to four feet at the front door so that we can't even open it in the morning. It takes us an hour to sort them." Now that they are closed two days in a row there are twice as many books to clear, so they tend to open late on Tuesdays, he said. He urged patrons to return books during the week.

"It's a shame that we can't use the library when we want to use it," Richmond resident Tran Luu said. She works near the Richmond branch and uses the library regularly to borrow novels.

Three positions were added on

the 1993 budget, one of a volunteer coordinator. The Anza branch, 550 37th Ave., has lost staff through attrition, and may try using volunteers to maintain services. There is no money to replace the missing employees in the new budget, according to branch manager Blanche Maulaet.

"What impacts the community here impacts all communities in the City," she said.

"The City budget has been a problem for several years. It's just the trickle-down theory of economics at work. We are not unique; all departments in the City are going to be affected."

The city is currently operating under what is called an Interim Budget Ordinance, which is in effect from June 30 until August 1 when the new fiscal year begins and the City is allocated money by the state.

"We just want to keep the library at the same level as it was last year," said Riley.

"The people of San Francisco are short-changing themselves by allowing the government to cut their library budget. We need to be screaming, writing letters to the editor and demanding services." Last year the Richmond branch took cuts in funds allocat-

ed for grounds-keeping.

The Presidio branch, at 3150 Sacramento St., is now run by a library technician instead of librarian because of last year's cuts. It is still open to the public with slightly shorter hours than the bigger branches.

A new computer system to update circulation and cataloging information was installed in some of the libraries on June 12 and 13. Now almost any book can be located with a touch of a finger.

"I wish I could use the library at more convenient times," said one disappointed library patron. "It's disappointing when you can't go to the library at night and now there's one less day."

The other alternative to closing the libraries on Mondays, discussed in hearings, according to Williams, was to eliminate half-time librarians from the smaller branch libraries.

However, if that had been done, some of the libraries would not even be able to stay open for five days.

One thing that was not taken into consideration during the budget process, according to Riley, was the increased price of books, which will result in fewer book purchases in the future.



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- Cabrillo/LaPlaya (S/E corner)

I wrote a column about estate planning three months ago and found that many people are confused about the concept. This month, I will try to clarify some of the most common misconceptions about estate planning.

Q. We have a will that our family attorney drafted five years ago. Haven't we done enough estate planning?

A. Having a will is one form of estate planning. Their efforts to keep things simple for themselves could cause complexities and high probate and death taxes for their inheritors.

For some people, limiting estate planning to just making a will might make sense. For example, younger people in good health with few assets often want to postpone advance estate planning.

But for older people with a reasonable amount of assets, it makes little sense to depend on a will alone. The amount of time, money and effort spent to avoid probate will far outweigh the disadvantages of what the inheritors will go through in probate.

Q. Is estate planning only for the rich and elderly?

A. Absolutely not. The rich and elderly are not the only people vulnerable to the adverse emotional and legal effects of incapacity and death. Also, estate planning benefits the survivors by preventing rigorous court hearings and procedures that are required in the event an estate must be probated. Estate planning is essential for modest estates because there are fewer assets.

Q. I keep hearing the word "probate." What exactly is it?

A. Probate is the name given to the legal process by which the court oversees the distribution of assets left by a will. The probate process tends to be cumbersome and lengthy. During probate, the assets of the decedent are appraised. All debts, death taxes, court fees and fees for lawyers, appraisers and accountants are paid. Remaining assets are then distributed to the inheritors. The average probate proceeding takes about a year before the estate is finally settled and distributed.



Estate Planning

John M. Lee

Q. It seems like everyone lately has been pushing the living trust as the primary mean of avoiding probate. Is there any other way to avoid probate?

A. Yes. The assets can be held in joint tenancy. This form of holding title automatically allows the transfer of assets to surviving joint tenant(s). However, this form of holding title has many disadvantages. It interferes with your control of the property by preventing you from selling without the other's consent, subjects your property to the creditors of the joint tenant and may result in higher capital gain taxes and gift taxes.

Q. Is the living trust the best probate avoidance device?

A. It is for most people. The advantages are that it avoids probate and causes no delay in distributing assets. Conservatorship proceedings are also avoided.

In addition, if a spouse should become incompetent, there is no interruption in payment of an incompetent person's medical and household bills, taxes or caring for one's family.

You retain control over your assets and may amend or revoke the trust at any time. You can delay distribution of assets to your children, if desired, and provide for your grandchildren.

Privacy is maintained as the living trust does not become public record. And unnecessary estate taxes can be avoided for inheritors. For married persons, up to \$1.2 million of their estate may be exempt from federal estate tax.

Q. Okay, I am sold on this concept of a living trust, but are there any disadvantages of a living trust?

A. There are some disadvantages of a living trust, but the benefits of having one outweigh the disadvantages by far.

It might cause you some inconvenience. If you want to refinance that property, you will have to sign a "Grant Deed" taking the

property out of the trust in order to transfer the property to your name. After you borrow the money, you can then transfer the property back to the trust.

If you have many debts, the trust will not protect your assets from creditor claims after you are deceased, whereas, probating your assets will protect your assets from creditor claims that are not filed in the probate proceedings in a timely fashion.

There is a little more paperwork in terms of reporting to the IRS after the death of a spouse. The surviving spouse must keep two sets of records and annually file a 1040 and 1041 income tax return.

As I mentioned in my first estate planning article, this is an issue for inheritors as well as senior citizens. If an estate is not drawn or implemented correctly, a lot of wealth will end up in the coffers of the Internal Revenue Service.

This tax burden is a new concern that is just beginning to be felt by the current generation of baby boomers, who not only have to plan for their children, but for their aging parents as well. I urge those of you who have not thought about this topic to learn more and

to pay serious attention to the consequences of not planning for your estate.

John M. Lee is the top producing agent for Prudential California Realty in San Francisco and specializes in Richmond and Sunset properties. If you have any questions, please call him at 474-1311 x302.

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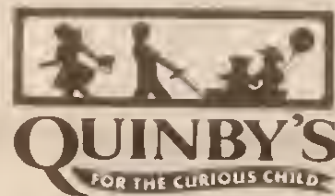
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A face in the crowd



Photo: Aladar Nesser

Jesse Nesser, son of Richmond Review photographer, Aladar, is amazed at the colorful mural of masks that is at the George Peabody Elementary School on Seventh Avenue between California and Clement streets.



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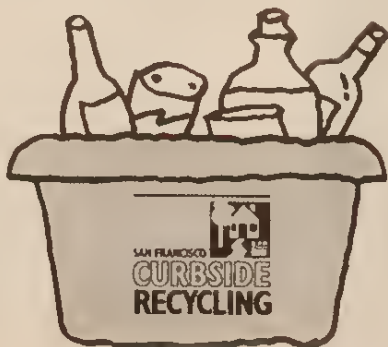
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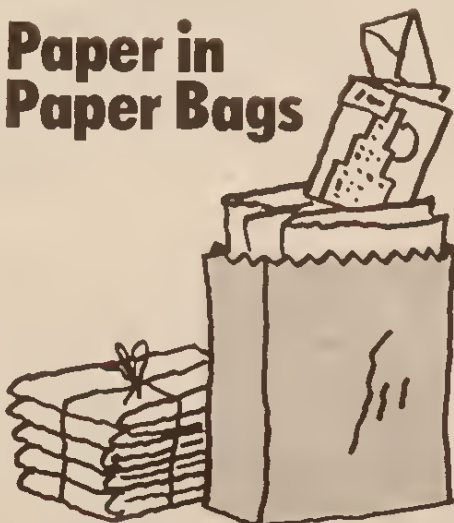
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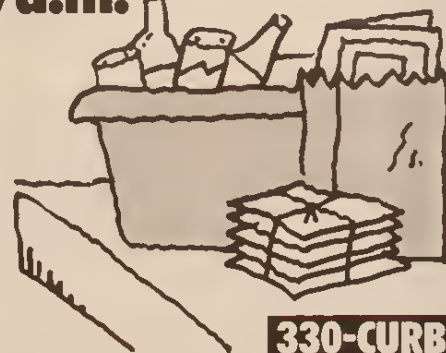
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Looking for statues in the park

If Golden Gate Park designer John McLaren knew about the park's Statue Walk in June he would probably be furious. McLaren hated statues and when someone would donate one, he would reluctantly accept it, but then proceed to landscape around it.

Sponsored by the Friends of Recreation and Parks, the walk was held on a warm Sunday afternoon. Tour guide Judy Harrison was pleased with the group of approximately 50 people who showed up for the walk. Harrison, who conducts the tour twice yearly, said that she gives the tour "to let people look at the park through a different set of eyes."

Harrison said that, although the tour only includes about 25 statues, there are over 60 statues in the park. Even though many of the sculptors are American, they emulated European artistic style by using heroic subjects for their sculpture.

The tour began at the John McLaren Memorial Rhododendron Dell where Harrison told the anecdote about McLaren's dislike of statuary.

Next was J. McQuarrie's statue of

William D. McKinnon on John F. Kennedy Drive. McKinnon was a member of the first California U.S. Volunteer Infantry from 1898 - 1899.

The last stop before entering the concourse was M. Earl Cummings' gallant statue of poet Robert Burns. Cummings also sculpted the sundial and Pool of Enchantment in front of the de Young and Asian Art museums respectively.

Among the other works of art the tour visited were Douglas Tilden's statue of Junipero Serra, founder of the California missions; Rupert Schmid's Ulysses S. Grant; William Wetmore Story's monumental statue of Francis Scott Key celebrating the writing of the Star-spangled Banner; Haig Patigian's statue of World War I General John Pershing and Jo Mura's Miguel De Cervantes.

In addition to commenting on the statues, Harrison pointed out the striking architecture of the Golden Gate Park Bandshell and the fountains around the music concourse. Harrison will be giving the tour again in the fall.

— Philip Liborio Gangi



Photo: Philip Liborio Gangi

Sightseers study Thomas Sheld-Clarke's 'Apple Elder Press' during the park tour.



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Financial Advisor

Eric Tyson

The social security system is not well understood by most Americans and, as a consequence, most people save inadequately for their retirement, and many collect benefits at the wrong time.

Social security provides a typical retiree, who earned an average of \$20,000-\$50,000 during their working years, approximately \$800 to \$1000 per month.

Personal savings and employer pensions will be needed to supplement social security benefits for those who retire at age 65; those who retire at 62 will receive a reduced early benefit of 80 percent.

Baby boomers must wait even longer to collect full benefits: those born after 1959 must wait until age 67, and those born after 1943 must wait until age 66 and some months.

Since benefits are permanently reduced if they are drawn before the recipient reaches age 65, how long one lives determines when it makes sense financially to start collecting benefits. Social security recipients who live past age 77 will collect more benefits by delaying their first withdrawal until age 65. In other words, if at age 62, a recipient does not expect to live past 77, they should start collecting at age 62.

The challenge, of course, is that no one knows how long they will live. However, life expectancy statistics show that at age 62, women can expect to live another 21 years (to age 83) and men another 17 years (to age 79).

Thus, if someone is in good health at age 62, they're probably better off waiting to collect benefits. But if a person is in poor health and/or their family history does not indicate a long life expectancy, they may be better off collecting benefits at age 62.

The tax consequences of receivable social security benefits should also factor into one's decision about when to start collecting. If the recipient plans to continue earning employment income or will have a significant amount of other income between ages 62 and 65, they will be better off waiting until age 65 to begin drawing benefits. In tax year 1991, for example, social security recipients under age 65 lost \$1 in benefits for every \$2 in employment earnings (for an effective 50 percent tax rate!) above \$7,080.

Up to one-half of social security benefits are also taxed to the extent that your annual income (wages, interest, dividends, capital gains plus half of your social security benefits) exceeds \$25,000 for single taxpayers or \$32,000 for married taxpayers.

Eric K. Tyson is founder of the Financial Information Center (885-1190), which does not sell financial products.

Do blue boxes really make a difference in reducing the amount of garbage that goes to the landfill?

The 20-year-old Garbage Project has data to support a resounding "YES." The Garbage Project, headed by archaeologist Dr. William L. Rathje, has been digging into four Canadian landfills in the Greater Toronto area to determine whether Canada's famous Blue Box Program — North America's first curbside recycling project, now more than five years old, has had a measurable impact on the volume of landfill refuse.

The study demonstrated two significant changes between pre-blue box and post-blue box levels of refuse volumes. Newspapers decreased by almost 50 percent. Glass also decreased by a bit more than 50 percent. Differences in change for other materials such as aluminum, tin and plastic were statistically insignificant because Canada's program only targeted these two materials initially.

Although no such digging has been done in Altamont Landfill (60 miles away, near Livermore), where San Francisco's garbage is permanently buried, our data shows that curbside recycling contributed to diverting 8 percent of the City's total waste.

So keep recycling. Do it through the blue boxes at curbside, through the large containers in apartment buildings, or take your recyclables to recycling centers for money or as donations to nonprofit centers.

For a complete listing of recycling centers, call the San Francis-

co Recycling Program Hotline at 554-6193. Whichever way you choose to recycle is fine — just as long as you do it.

Just Say NO to Junk Mail

If you don't want it and you won't read it, it's junk mail. Even if it is recyclable and you can put it in the paper bag for curbside pickup, junk mail is downright wasteful. The best thing to do is to stop it from showing up in your mailbox in the first place. Here are some strategies to stop the junk mail at the source:

• Direct Marketing Association (DMA)

Write to them and they will put your name on a "delete" file that goes out to all DMA members four times a year. To request a "Name-Removal Card," write to Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, 11 West 42nd St., P.O. Box 3861, New York, NY 10163; (212) 768-7277

• Credit Bureaus

Credit bureaus sell your name and address to banks and credit card companies. To stop them, send a written request to be removed from each bureau's direct marketing file. Two of the largest credit bureaus are:

TRW-NCAC, Target Marketing Services Division, 12606 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75243. Attn: Mail Preference Service; (214) 235-1200

Trans Union, Transmark, Inc., 555 W. Adams St., Chicago IL 60661; (312) 431-5101



Recycling grab bag

Maria Hon

• Mailing List Brokers

Mailing list brokers buy and sell names. The following are three of the biggest brokers. Write and ask to have your name placed on a suppress file.

R.L. Polk and Company, List Services Division, 6400 Monroe Blvd., Taylor, MI 48180; (800) 873-7655

Donnelly Marketing, 1235 N. Avenue, Nevada, IA 50201-1419; (515) 382-8202

MetroMail Corporation, 901 West Bond, Lincoln, NB 68521; (800) 426-8901

• Write to the junk mailer directly. Send your mailing label and tell them to delete your name from their mailing list.

Getting Rid of Used Batteries

Seventy-five percent of the batteries purchased in drug stores and super markets are alkaline batteries. They contain the active chemicals, manganese and mercury, as energy sources.

When the chemicals are drained, the batteries are useless and have to be thrown away. Once in landfill, the heavy metals may leach into the soil and contaminate the groundwater.

Unfortunately, San Francisco's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, located at 501 Tunnell Ave., does not accept

household batteries due to the difficulties in battery recycling. So, the only option available is to dispose of the batteries in your

garbage. But you can help prevent leaching by placing them tightly in a plastic bag.

Better Options:

• Purchase solar operated devices when possible. You won't need batteries in the first place.

• Use rechargeable nickel cadmium (Ni-Cad) batteries. Ni-Cads have the advantage over alkaline batteries in that they can be reused about 1,000 times. Keep a spare set of Ni-Cads on reserve ready for use, so that if the juice runs out, you'll have a spare to kick in while you recharge the old ones.

• Use a solar recharger for your Ni-Cads. Real Good News Catalog carries them. Call them at 800-762-7325 for a catalog of solar and energy efficient products.

• Use low mercury content alkaline batteries. The most recent household batteries on the market contain only .025 percent mercury by weight. Check labels.

• Change all the batteries in a

device at the same time. A set of batteries will produce only as much power as the weakest battery will allow.

Maria Hon is the director of the San Francisco Recycling Program. She can be reached at 554-3409.

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Healthy food goal of City health dept.

Continued from page 8

According to Palladino, produce display racks can extend 24 inches onto the sidewalk area. Fruits and vegetables must be stored or displayed at least 30 inches above the sidewalk level. In addition, an overhead covering is required that must extend six inches beyond the edges of the display. There should be no crates stored along the curb.

In addition, garbage must be placed in clean plastic bags in trash cans, and all trash cans must be brought inside as soon as they are emptied or when the store first opens. Each store is responsible for keeping its sidewalk and trash area clean.

When businesses are found in violation of these or other public health department rules, there are several approaches that can be taken.

"In my experience, an educational approach works best," said Palladino, who prefers to talk with proprietors and explain the sanitation reasons behind the laws.

In most cases, the store owners are warned about the violations and told what corrections need to be made. In severe cases, such as contamination of food by sewage, a facility could be closed immediately. Otherwise, proprietors are given a timeframe in which to correct faulty conditions.

If nothing is done to comply with City regulations, citations would be issued and, eventually, if violations are not corrected, a store might lose its license to operate.

"It's difficult for us to maintain compliance," said Breslin. "The vast majority of cases comply. The vast majority of cases backslide."

To illustrate his point, Breslin

told how, on their way to the forum, he and Palladino passed a produce market on Clement Street that Breslin had found in violation just one year ago "and they promised to sin no more."

Ironically, the market was now clearly in violation again, and Palladino promised to have an inspector out the next day to talk again with the owners.

Both Breslin and Palladino urge residents to report violations. Although the files on a particular facility are a matter of public record, complainants' names are kept confidential.

People can report violations by licensed businesses to Palladino's office, 753-8117, at Health Center Number Five, 1351 24th Avenue. Complaints regarding unsanitary conditions in a non-licensed establishment, such as a neighbor's yard, can be reported to 255-3610.

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From where I sit

Mayor Frank Jordan

In the five months I've been Mayor, no issue — no challenge — has more occupied my time than the City budget for fiscal 1992-93. I have now submitted it to the board of supervisors. It is balanced, it is prudent and it is only the beginning of far-reaching reforms and reductions to cut the cost of city government.

My taking charge of the budget in January was akin to taking command of a ship wallowing and ready to capsize. A deep and ongoing recession deprived us of needed revenue, and there were heavy debts carried over from past administrations. These include \$60 million in frozen wages that now must be paid; about \$14 million a year in multi-year commitments to a dental plan; benefits in exchange for a one-year wage-freeze and promises to fund programs or roll back revenue sources.

Not only was I confronted with a current budget plunging into deficit — some \$61 million has to be found to bring it into balance — but also a growing and dangerous imbalance in the fiscal year ahead.

First, it was \$90 million out of balance; then \$150 million. In the end, the shortfall that threatened to sink the budget for the coming fiscal year totaled \$175 million.

I am casting no blame, but simply asserting my commitment to restore fiscal solvency in full cooperation with business, labor, my colleagues in government and the citizens of San Francisco.

The proposed budget is \$9 million more than the current one in its dependence on the general fund monies raised here in San Francisco, even taking into account over \$100 million in wage increases and other cost increases. Unlike past years, there was no pot of money at the end of a rainbow to balance the budget.

Some of the cuts are deep and painful, but I am confident that in bringing this budget into balance, terrible and destructive cuts were avoided. No libraries or health clinics will be completely closed. No Muni lines will be abandoned. There is no reduction in AIDS services. There will be no reduction in police officers on our streets.

I have said that I would not seek to increase taxes. But, I have had to. There is no reasonable alternative. Therefore, after reaching a consensus with the business community, I am calling for a one-time, one-year increase in the commercial utility users tax, and its extension to foreign and interstate calls. This should raise an estimated \$11 million to close the last remaining gap in the budget.

Although this is a budget with pain and sacrifice, it is a responsible budget. Although vital services are maintained, new programs are deferred. Fares and fees have been increased. The business community has stepped forward to accept a one-year increase. Labor has contributed significantly to bring this budget into balance.

This, which puts the common good of the City ahead of private interests is like a banner unfurled. It proclaims a restoration of pride and confidence in our City — in our ability to work together and to achieve great things together.

A little bit of heart

Dana Perrigan



My boss came to work this morning with the news that a U.S. postal worker near Detroit had flipped out and killed three of his co-workers. Six others were wounded in the bloody fray.

When something like this happens, people always wonder how someone could do such a thing.

It's an obvious and natural question. People in their right mind don't go around blasting their co-workers into oblivion. They might, under certain circumstances, briefly fantasize about doing so, but that's a long way from slapping a banana clip into an AR-15 and making like Rambo.

When I was delivering mail in Santa Clara for a living eight years ago, there probably were moments when the idea of doing something along those lines would have held a certain comic appeal for me. I would have fantasized about it and then laughed at the ridiculousness of the fantasy.

Working 12 hours a day, six days a week for the U.S. Postal Service was a tough gig. The routes were long, the volume of mail was heavy and you had to deliver it in all kinds of weather.

To make things worse, there were dogs that seemed to live for the opportunity of sinking their teeth into you.

Their owners, of course, considered them harmless. They couldn't comprehend that loveable, faithful old Bowser could have an aggressive bone in his body.

"Oh, he won't bite," they'd say. "He's harmless."

So they'd leave the side gate or screen door open and when lovable, faithful old Bowser heard the clank of the mailbox or the tread of the letter carrier's feet, he'd make a mad dash.

The evil ones didn't even bother to bark. If you were lucky, you heard them sprinting on the pavement in time to turn around and defend yourself.

Even worse than the dogs were some of the supervisors. At that time and in that place, management was under a tremendous amount of pressure to trim the budget. That meant as little over-

time as possible. It also meant that everyone had to work as fast as they possibly could.

If you didn't meet the standards they had set, and they were tough ones, they were constantly on your back. A lot of carriers skipped lunch so they could complete their routes on time.

It was especially heartbreaking to listen to a young supervisor, who did very little in terms of real work, berate an older carrier because he wasn't able to keep up.

"I feel like an old mule," a carrier once told me.

Morale was, of course, poor. Little trust existed between supervisors and carriers. Supervisors routinely tailed carriers on their routes — timing their breaks and writing citations for any infraction they could find.

After a year of working for the U.S. Postal Service in Santa Clara, I quit. I went to work one morning and decided that whatever they were paying me wasn't worth being unhappy. I called the supervisor aside and told him I was leaving. I turned in my bag and walked out the door.

I don't want to imply that working for the U.S. Postal Service is the same everywhere. I'm just telling you what it was like for me in Santa Clara eight years ago. And I certainly don't want to imply that supervisors are to blame for postal workers going on murderous rampages.

But I think I understand how someone who's a little unbalanced to begin with might feel persecuted by a certain style of management.

I was walking through a downtown alley recently when I ran into an old man wearing a denim coat scrounging for cigarette butts. After admiring my leather jacket, he told me that he once had had one just like it. He had given it away to someone who needed it.

Today, he said, that man was a better man for the act of charity bestowed upon him.

"A little bit of heart goes a long way," he said, tapping his chest a couple of times with a forefinger.

Sutro Baths

Continued from page 9

in San Francisco in 1851 at the age of 21 and opened a tobacconist's shop on Montgomery Street. He married and eventually had six children. In 1859, when silver was discovered in the Comstock Lode, he started a refining operation in Virginia City, Nev.

An engineer by training, Sutro designed a tunnel 1,650 feet deep and four miles long, to ventilate and drain the maze of mining shafts. He spent most of a decade trying to raise capital to build his tunnel, fighting the monopolistic interests of the "Silver Kings."

After a mine explosion in 1869 killed 45 miners, Sutro delivered an impassioned two-hour speech, in his thick German accent, at the Virginia City Opera House. Resulting subscription funds allowed construction to begin.

Ten years and \$6.5 million later, the Sutro Tunnel was completed. Sutro sold his interests and returned to San Francisco a millionaire.

He began buying property in the "outside lands," the neglected sand dunes and sagebrush-covered hills beyond the downtown area. At one point, he owned one-twelfth of the land of San Francisco, including most of Twin Peaks.

Sutro accumulated one of the largest private libraries in existence, which became the Sutro Library; donated land to the University of California to begin the UCSF Medical School and created Sutro Forest from a barren hill.

It was love at first sight the day he rode out to what later became Sutro Heights. He bought 100 acres of land and built a country house on the promontory, spending a fortune on a conservatory, landscaping and statuary. Then, in a characteristic gesture, he opened the grounds to the public.

Sutro built an aquarium below Sutro Heights, then, in 1888, began planning his bathhouse, offering a \$500 prize for a design. Meanwhile, after the second Cliff House burned down, he completed the third and most elegant Cliff House in 1896.

Sutro battled with the Southern Pacific railroad over streetcar fares and then over a proposed federal funding bailout. He was nominated to run for mayor on the Populist ticket in 1894 and gathered twice as many votes as either major party candidate.

But Sutro, then in his 60s, found himself at war with an entrenched political machine. He suffered a nervous breakdown at the conclusion of his two-year term, admitting "I could not manage the politicians," and died two years later, at the age of 68, in 1898. His successor, James D. Phelan, was able to carry out some of Sutro's reforms.

Sutro Baths passed into the hands of the Whitney family, owners of Playland, and one by one the pools closed down. In the 1950s, the main attraction was a skating rink.

In March 1966, Robert D. Fraser announced an apartment complex for the site. On June 14, bulldozers began to demolish Sutro

Baths. Two weeks later, a fire of undetermined origin broke out in the pump house. Smoke billowed hundreds of feet in the air and near-gale winds ignited small fires on rooftops across the neighborhood. The apartment complex was never built.

Guided tours of the ruins that were once the incomparable Sutro Baths are regularly offered. Call the National Park Service at 556-8371 for information.

The Richmond ReView

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July Calendar of Events

1 - 5

Exhibit: Eight artists explore the relationship of people to the environment. Chia Gallery, 2648 Third Street, Wednesdays through Saturdays, through July 31, 1 to 6 p.m. 282-2832.

Seminar: Long-term care insurance seminars are offered for seniors covering issues such as when to consider long-term care coverage and what to look for in a good policy. California Pacific Medical Center, call for exact locations, dates and times. Free; 1-800-427-3209

Classes: Learn about acupuncture, acupunctuure, and martial arts. Meiji College of Oriental Medicine, 1426 Fillmore St., #301, Saturdays, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Free, 771-6266.

Picnic: Members of the Golden Gate Democratic League, the Richmond District Democratic Club and the Sunset Community Democratic Club are having a picnic, elected officials have been invited to attend. Pine Lake Park near Sigmund Stern Grove, Saturday, July 4; 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.; 861-2378.

Lecture: The Jewish Story from 70 C.E. to 1789 from the Arch of Titus to the Arc de Triomphe presented by The Society for Humanistic Jews, U.C. Laurel Heights, 3333 California St., Sunday, July 5; 5 p.m.; Donations required for non-members.

6 - 12

Lecture: Mothers of East Los Angeles, Aurora Castillo, will share grassroots strategies used to halt environmental destruction of East L.A., UCSF, 533 Parnassus Ave., Toland Hall, Tuesday, July 7; noon - 1 p.m.

Brown Bag Lecture: Indoor air quality - what you should know, S.F. Chamber of Commerce, 465 California St., Chamber Board Room, Tuesday, July 7; noon. Call for reservation 392-4511 ext. 805.

Brown Bag Lecture: Wine and Health, learn how the French



An exhibit of landscape artist William Stanley Haseltine's work is on exhibit at the de Young Museum now through September.

indulge in saturated fats yet have lower cholesterol than their U.S. counterparts. UCSF, Health Sciences West Building, 513 Parnassus Ave., Room 300, Wednesday, July 8; noon - 1 p.m.

Class: Animal behavior class, prevention and effective remedies for common misbehaviors and temperament problems in dogs and cats. SF/SPCA, 2500 16th St., Saturdays, July 11 & 18; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$45, Call S.F. State to register at 338-1205.

Youth Swimming: The Richmond YMCA offers progressive swimming lessons for grades K-6 at the Presidio Pool starting Saturday, July 11 and continuing for eight weeks. \$50 for session, plus \$25 youth YMCA basic membership per year. Also two week sessions for three-12 year olds beginning July 27 and 28. Call the YMCA at 668-2060 for more information.

Walk: City Guides takes you on a walk over the Golden Gate Bridge, meet at the foot of Strauss Statue, Sunday, July 12; noon; 557-4266.

13 - 19

Basketball League: Sign-ups

Women on the Presidio: Explore the lives of women on U.S. Army posts past and present, Meet Park Ranger Theresa Griggs at the flagpole in front of the Officer's Club, Main Post, Sunday, July 19; 1 - 3 p.m., reservations required; 556-0865.

for their peers; Richmond District Police Station, 461 Sixth Ave., Wednesday, July 29; 4 p.m.; 751-2504.

Meeting: The Golden Gate National Recreation Area will meet to discuss the Sutro Heights Historic District, Fort Mason, Bldg. 201, Thursday, July 30; 7:30 p.m.

Stamping: Have fun stamping with hundreds of rubber stamps, age four and older. Presidio Reading center, 3150 Sacramento St., Thursday, July 30; 3:30 p.m.

20 - 27

Community Police/Forum: Barbara Kaufman of KCBS' consumer program "Call for Action," and SF Board of Supervisors candidate speaks at the Richmond District Police Station, 461 Sixth Ave., Tuesday, July 21; 7 p.m.; call 553-1984 for details.

Films: Film program for ages three to five includes Mike Mulligan & His Steam Shovel and Little Engine that Could, Richmond Branch Library, 351 Ninth Ave., Tuesday, July 21; 10:15 and 11 a.m.

Sunset at Point Bonita Lighthouse: Watch the sun slip into the Pacific or the lighthouse light cast patterns on the fog. Bring flashlights and dress warmly. Point Bonita lighthouse parking lot on Field Road, Wednesday, July 22; 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Presidio Walk: Examine the historic buildings and landscape on the Presidio and see how the post developed since 1776. Meet park ranger at the flagpole, Officers' Club, Main Post, Sunday, July 26; 1 - 3 p.m.; reservations required 556-0865.

27 - 31

Brown Bag Lecture: Managing Change Successfully, learn to be a change master instead of a change victim. UCSF, Health Sciences West Building, 513 Parnassus Ave., Room 300, Wednesday, July 29; noon - 1 p.m.

Richmond District Youth Court: Teens act as attorneys and jurors

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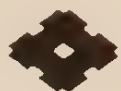
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Cancer center

Continued from page 1

two of six required. The third permit, for pouring the concrete shell for the center, is about ready to be applied for, according to Stephanie Axelrod, director of community relations for the CPMC.

Axelrod said medical center staff are continuing to work with neighbors and the City and state agencies overseeing the project. "We expect to proceed with the cancer center as planned," she said.

Some neighbors and the Presidio Heights Association of Neighbors and Laurel Heights Improvement Association have

written letters to the zoning administrator calling for the medical center to apply for a conditional use permit (CUP) that would allow for public meetings and environmental assessments of the project.

But according to Oren Reinbolt, vice president of facilities with CPMC, the linear reactors are not radioactive in the conventional sense and do not contain radioactive elements that could escape into the environment in case of an accident of major earthquake.

The machines use powerfully focused X-rays to hit and kill cancerous cells in patients. The use of simulators create models to increase the X-rays' accuracy in hitting a localized area.

Planning code

Continued from page 1

for houses on sloping lots was to use the percentages of the grades. That system has been scrapped and height limits would now be defined by the difference in elevation between the front and back of the lot.

3. Design: The department would have discretionary authority to modify the proposed design of buildings to be more consistent with neighborhood character.

4. Off-street Parking: Requirements demanding that builders provide for new parking as part of their project proposals have been eased. The new rules require one additional parking space for each dwelling unit less than or equal to 3,000 square feet. A second space would be required for each dwelling unit over that amount, but it may be compact and in tandem.

For remodeling, the new rules would require a second parking space for any addition over 750 square feet that brings the total square footage over 3,000.

"We have replaced the old controls with

a one-for-one requirement in all districts," Horton said.

5. Definition of Dwelling Unit: Under the new rules, the zoning administrator may enforce stricter standards on buildings that have a history of violations.

6. Demolitions and Extensive Alterations: Demolition controls have been abolished in RH2 districts (single-family dwellings only).

"Our thinking was that the building envelopes (the maximum size a structure can be built) are now more restricted, so why shouldn't people be allowed to replace old buildings?" Horton said.

For demolished single family dwellings in RH-2 (two-family dwellings), the second unit would be limited to 600 square feet.

"The rationale is to allow in-law units to help pay for the mortgage of the larger unit," Horton said. "But we are not very happy with this requirement and builders have blasted this proposal and don't think it works."

The earliest date that the full planning commission is expected take final action on the new controls is July 30.

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